

FY2023 APPROPRIATIONS: MINIBUS #1

House Democrats are again choosing partisanship when crafting their first Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations package of six bills. From excessive spending increases amid 40-year high inflation to striking the long-standing, bipartisan language preventing federal dollars from being used to pay for abortions, Democrats prioritize partisanship over addressing the needs of Americans.

• Democrats are appropriating double-digit spending increases that would worsen inflation.

- ➤ The Interior-Environment bill provides an 18% increase (nearly \$7 billion) over last year's level. This includes more than a 20% increase for the EPA (a \$2 billion increase), and nearly a 12% increase for the National Park Service (a \$378 million increase).¹
- Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) funds a 17% topline increase of \$4.3 billion compared to last year.²
- ➤ The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (T-HUD) bill spends 12% more overall from last year with a 17% increase for HUD, less than a year after signing a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill into law.³
- ➤ The Agriculture bill essentially gives the Biden Administration unlimited spending authority for SNAP, which was massively expanded during the pandemic and has a \$9 billion reserve fund, this fiscal year by providing a "such sums as may be necessary" appropriations if the defined appropriated amount runs out.⁴
- FDA also receives \$343 million more than FY2022, a 10% increase, without increased accountability following the failures associated with the baby formula shortage.⁵

• Democrats are pushing controversial reproductive provisions.

- > FSGG eliminates a ban on the use of local and Federal funds for abortion services in Washington, D.C.⁶
- > FSGG also eliminates provisions preventing the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) from covering abortion services.⁷
- ➤ The Military Construction-Veterans Affairs (MilCon-VA) bill includes provisions and authorizing language regarding fertility treatments for veterans, such as expanding eligibility for assisted reproductive technology.⁸

• Democrats prioritize Green New Deal-inspired initiatives over alleviating our energy crisis.

- ➤ The Energy-Water (E&W) Development bill increases energy efficiency and renewable energy activities by more than 25% compared to last year. 9
- ➤ The Interior-Environment bill includes provisions that would disincentivize domestic energy and timber production. ¹⁰
- FSGG includes \$100 million for the Electric Vehicle Fund to transform the Federal vehicle fleet to electric and zero emission vehicles.¹¹
- The E&W bill includes funding for President Biden's proposal to use the Defense Production Act for non-emergency uses, such as the production of solar components, heat pumps, and insulation. 12

• Democrats packed these bills with other partisan policies while ignoring our energy and economic crises.

- ➤ T-HUD prevents verification of the immigration status of residents in HUD-assisted housing. ¹³ Moreover, FSGG includes new language making DACA participants eligible for Federal employment. ¹⁴
- ➤ MilCon-VA fails to include long-standing language prohibiting the transfer of detainees currently at Guantanamo Bay. 15
- ➤ The FSGG bill eliminates a ban on the use of funds for needle exchange programs and funds to legalize marijuana in D.C. 16
- > FSGG also includes new restrictions on the D.C. private school voucher program, effectively terminating the program. 17
- ➤ It also includes a provision to create a new commission to identify and recommend Federal property name changes or removal that are inconsistent with the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. ¹⁸

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¹⁸ H.R. 8254, 117th Cong. Title VII. Section 751. https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr8254/BILLS-117hr8254rh.pdf